

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

This is a NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE in response to the AMENDMENT filed April 11, 2011.

Claims 1-10 and 14-16 have been cancelled. Claims 17-20 are new.

Claims 11-13 and 17-20 remain in the Application.

The "Replacement Sheet" drawings for Figs. 1-16 received on April 11, 2011 are acceptable.

Objection to the specification has been withdrawn in view of a new abstract of the disclosure and an updated paragraph of "Cross Reference to Related Applications".

The title has been updated to "FINGERPRINTED CIRCUITS AND METHODS OF MAKING AND IDENTIFYING THE SAME" in the Bib Data Sheet.

In response to Applicant's request, the Rejection of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, has been withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims and remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-13 and 17-20 are allowed. Renumbered Claims 1-7.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record taken alone or in combination fail to anticipate, or render obvious, a method of uniquely identifying instantiations of functionally equivalent circuits, including among other features , "installing a particular instantiation of

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functionally equivalent circuits in an item of an equipment, and testing the item of the equipment for a presence of the particular instantiation of the functionally equivalent circuits in the item of the equipment by determining the multi-bit numbers”, as currently recited in the independent Claim 11.

Consequently, Claims 11-13 and 17-20 (Renumbered Claims 1-7) are allowed over the prior arts of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES C. KERVEROS whose telephone number is (571) 272-3824. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JAMES C KERVEROS/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2117

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